

SURF MEETING AT OCEAN GROVE, N. J.

Beside the Sea the wondering people stood,
Or sat, or bowed, devotion's earnest throng;
The spirit, lost in worship's attitude,
Mingled its praises with the billows' song.

O widening sea! O ever heaving flood!

Here on thy margin, where the surges roar,

Thy people rise to Thee, O blessed God,

They weep, they worship, triumph and adore.—E. H. S.

SERVICE BY THE SEA.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

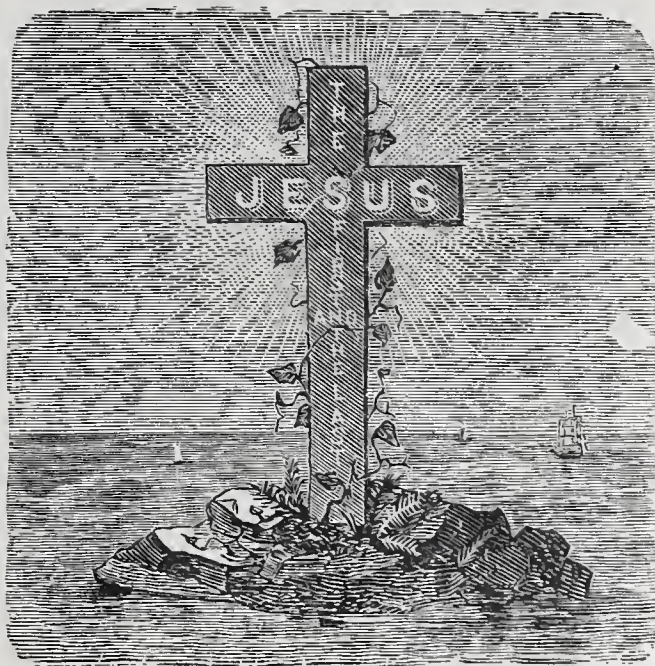
PRESIDENT

OF

Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.



The sea sings in the golden light,
Of fragrant morn or dewy eve;
The sea sings through the fitful night,
While winds their stormy vestments weave;
So let us sing the songs of love,
Though darkness reigns, or tempests sweep,
There's goodness in the heart above,
And mercy blesses though we weep.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1878.

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NAMES OF THE MEMBERS
OF
Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association.

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REV. W. B. OSBORN, India.
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NINTH ANNUAL REPORT
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President of Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

To the Members of the Association:

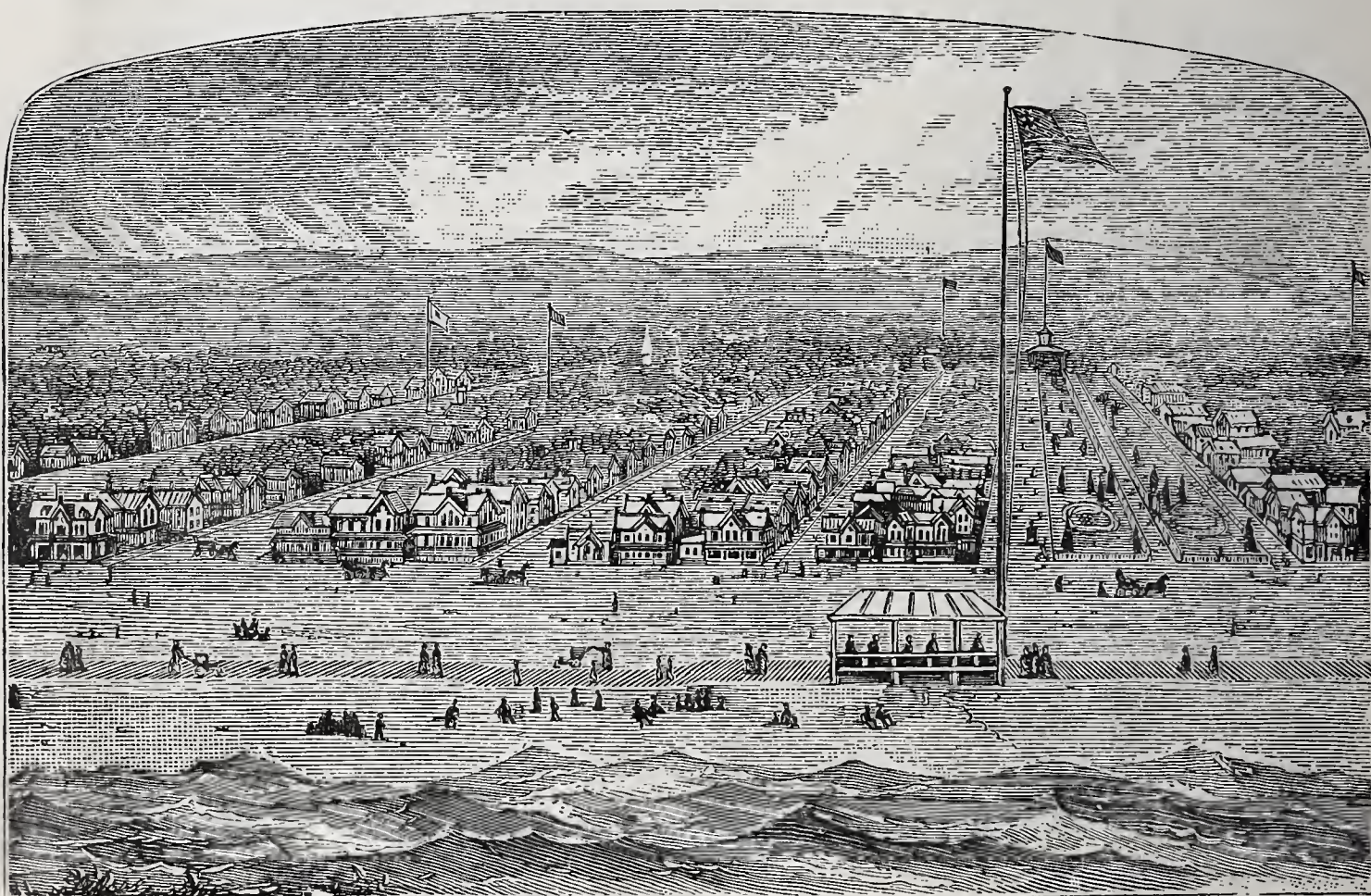
DEAR BRETHREN:—In the beginning of our organization, it was arranged that the Annual Meetings of this Association should be held each year some time during the progress of our regular Camp-Meeting exercises. The causes which may have led to this were doubtless two: first, it would naturally be supposed that at each Camp-Meeting the members of the Association would all be here, and by holding the Annual Meeting then, the presence of each would be secured without additional cost of time or money; and, secondly, the business was regarded as so limited that a few hours between the preaching services on some particular day, would be all-sufficient for its transaction.

Now, all is changed, and, for reasons the most imperative. Because, first, at the time the Camp-Meeting is held, the season is so far from being closed, that it would be impossible to reach intelligent conclusions as to the financial results of the year; and, secondly, the business has so accumulated and enlarged, that instead of a few hours, it now requires days for its accomplishment, to say nothing of the fact that the services of the Camp-Meeting have so increased in importance, that the undivided attention and labors of those having charge of its interests are required to give them efficiency and success. A very brief experience, therefore, taught us that our Camp-Meetings and our Annual Meetings, must be held at different times, and so far apart as to allow full opportunity to attend to each intelligently and in the fear of God.

The Second Tuesday in October, was finally fixed upon, and we are more fully impressed each year, that this is sufficiently early, for the full

adjustment of all our affairs, and yet, for various reasons, we could not well postpone it to a later date.

In accordance, therefore, with this regulation, we are again met, and, as always, are now anew, called upon with devout thanksgiving, to record the fact, that during the year just closed, the lives and health of the members of our association have been spared, and, in the good providence of God, are here for the ninth time, in our accustomed places, to do our accustomed work. The review of the past year, will bring to our minds toils and cares, but with these, also, the refreshing influences of many refreshing moments. As life is the alternation of storm and sunshine, so our work at Ocean Grove has its cares and rest. For the cares let us gird ourselves anew, and the rest accept or wait for as God ordains. I now call attention to



OCEAN GROVE—FROM THE SEA.

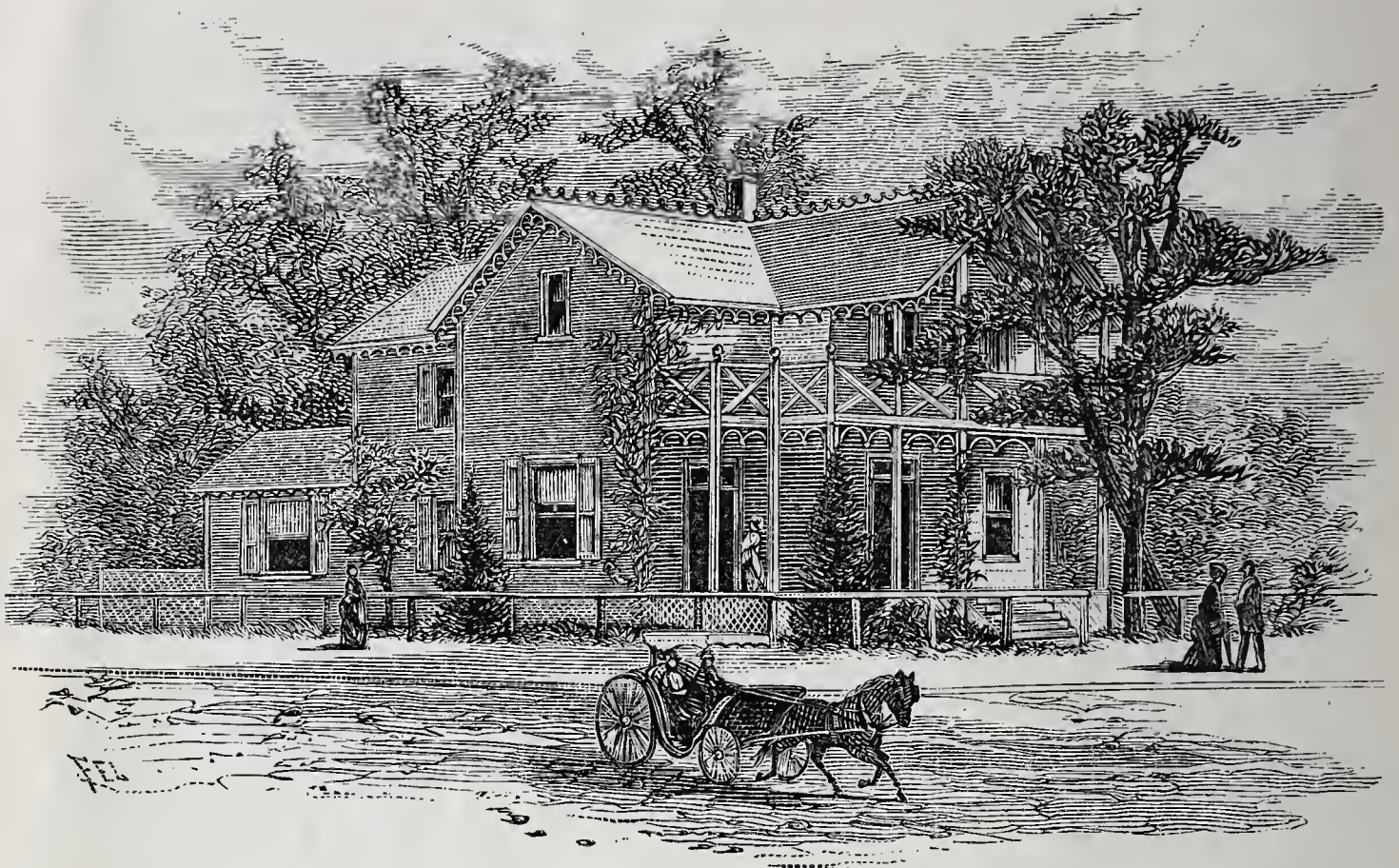
THE ASSOCIATION'S WORK,

for the year just closed. I repeat, for the purpose of refreshing your memories, what has often been said before, that in the enumeration of our work for a whole year, there are probably, in the aggregate, hundreds of days spent in the performance of duties that have no name, yet in the management of an enterprise so vast as ours, as important, and even more expensive than work well defined and clear.

Taking up the mention of the work as nearly in the order of its occurrence as may be, I name the construction, early in the Spring, of twenty new portable kitchens, making one hundred and six, now owned by the Association, all of which were rented during the summer, some of them more than once, and others could have been used had they been at our command.

The turnpike along the front of our property, had from the beginning been in a very unsatisfactory condition, and made an unfavorable impression upon the public mind before the grounds were entered. To remove this unsightliness, and enhance the value of property in that locality, our men, under the lead of Capt. Rainear, commenced the work of grading, making side-walks, culverts, and sodding around the curves and the triangle in front of Broadway, the whole making such a change in the general appearance of the neighborhood, that several lots were immediately sold. The entire cost of this improvement was \$455. A good, substantial fence, consisting of turned cedar and oak posts, with two inch gas pipe for rails, has been placed around the curves from the turnpike around into Broadway, a distance of 512 feet, at a cost of about \$200, and connecting with the new and substantial Georgia pine fence and gate-way across Broadway at Lawrence Avenue, thus throwing Broadway open to public travel, and bringing that part of our grounds into more general notice. The gate-way and fence stretching one hundred feet, the entire width of Broadway, was built at a cost of \$65. Up to the time referred to, comparatively little had been done to this part of our grounds; and especially along Broadway, the side-walks even had not been made. To relieve this condition of things, a substantial plank foot-way, six feet wide, was laid on the north side of Broadway from the gate, to connect with the foot-way along the Ocean front at Lillagore's bathing grounds, and also along the South side of Broadway, from Pilgrim's pathway, to Central, with crossings at both these Avenues, making a total of 3,386 feet. In addition, each Avenue, intersecting with Broadway, north, has curbing at the corners, and plank foot-ways four feet wide across the same, making a total of 660 feet, and a grand total of 4,040 feet, so that now, persons entering our grounds at the head of Broadway, can pass down to the Sea, and up the shore to Ross's bathing grounds, a distance of nearly a mile and a half, on pleasant walks of plank. The Broadway walk, with crossings, curbings, &c., cost \$507.70.

The amount of curbing done on the various Avenues, during the year, is as follows,—On Abbott, Broadway, Pilgrim-pathway, Asbury, Sea-View, and Beach Avenues, an aggregate of 2,556 feet. This curbing has been done with hemlock plank, the material with which we commenced,



REV. A. E. BALLARD'S COTTAGE. CORNER OF MAIN AND NEW JERSEY AVENUES.

but, experience has shown that it lasts but a few years, and we are happy to see that lot owners are, in a few instances, using stone as a substitute, which I am quite sure will be found cheaper, and more satisfactory in the end.

In the progress of our work through the year, we have opened Cookman Avenue, from New York to Lawrence, Clark, from Central to Lawrence, and two new Avenues, without names, (which with your approval, I would call Franklin and Stockton, in memory of our late fellow-members) from New York to Lawrence, also New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Whitefield, Benson, and Lawrence Avenues, running at right angles with Avenues just named, and which were opened only to Broadway, have been opened to the last of the new Avenues, so that these cross Avenues, now run down nearly to Fletcher Lake. In opening and grading these avenues, a vast amount of turf had to be removed, and must be disposed of in some way. A number of our Avenues from Central towards the Sea, north of Main, needed improvement. To these, the turf from the new Avenues was carted, and laid as a foundation, on which gravel has been spread, thus placing Bath, Surf, Atlantic, Sea View, and Pitman Avenues, and McClintock St., from Beach to Ocean, in a vastly improved condition. In addition to this, Pilgrim pathway, from Bath to Wesley Lake, and Beach Avenue from Webb to Broadway, have been clayed and graveled, and on the

latter side-walks have been made. Side-walks have also been made around Thompson Park entire, also on Asbury Avenue, from Pilgrim Pathway to New York Avenue, particularly on the south side. The total distance of Avenues thus improved, reaches a mile, and new Avenues opened considerably over a mile. To relieve Main Avenue of the heavy flow of water in time of rain, a culvert 96 feet long by 8 wide has been constructed at the foot of the Avenue, emptying into the Sea, and for the same purpose one on Broadway, opposite Beach, 80 feet long and 6 feet wide, carries the surplus water into Fletcher Lake.

During the high winds and storms of winter, thousands of loads of sand accumulate at the foot of the avenues, next to the sea. This has to be removed every year by the Association—last spring at a cost of about \$400. I mention this to show in how many and unthought of ways the time of our men and the means of the Association are taxed; and in addition, there were last year from three to four hundred loads of street accumulations that had to be removed in the same way. But notwithstanding these things, there are relieving and compensating considerations. During some of the low tides of corresponding periods, our foreman discovered, near Lillagore's bathing grounds, that the undertow had left quantities of clay uncovered, and in a short time secured 368 loads, worth 40 cents per load, all of which has been well used in improving streets and side walks.

The sale of the ground in the rear of the old Pitman House, which was occupied by our lumber yard and store-house, to Charles E. Howland, required their removal, to make way for the extension of his new building, now known as the "Arlington." By your direction, a new building was erected, by our own men, under the superintendence of Major J. C. Patteson, 20 by 60, and laid out in rooms or stalls, for the reception of goods belonging to different parties tenting on the ground, at the northwest corner of Bath and Central avenues, at a cost, as it now stands, of about \$1100, and serves a most excellent purpose. The north end of this building is used as a gentleman's commode, which so far as appearances and other matters are concerned, is as free from objection as places of the kind can be. The old commode, in the centre of the Park, has been removed, the sidewalks graded, a post and chain fence carried around the whole, a neat summer-house placed in the corner next to Lake avenue and Pilgrim pathway, and a very neat close fence, 8 feet high by 300 long, with ornamental cresting on the top, nicely painted, at a cost of about \$90, enclosing the lumber yard, runs from the store-house north to south side of Atlantic avenue, then west to a line with ladies' commode, so that next year, with additional trees, evergreens and others, grass sowing, sodding and other improvements in the Park, the whole will not only be without offence, but attractive and beautiful.

The pavillion at the foot of Ocean pathway, small and poorly constructed at the first, was demolished by the storms of last winter. In its place a large, substantial and every way more tasteful structure has been erected, which cost by contract, without painting, \$500. The painting, grading, claying and adjusting the walks around it was done by our own men. The small pavillion, foot of Olin Street, being abandoned by its owner, fell into our hands, and has been repaired, and presents a neat appearance, so that we now have eight of these structures, more or less ornamental, in various parts of the grounds.

In conducting meetings at the auditorium, from year to year, it was found that some alterations were needed there. A new tower was therefore erected over the preacher's stand, the bell removed from the centre tower and placed in the new one, thus enabling the janitor to get to it for ringing without crowding through the congregation. Ventilators were also opened under each tower, affording a better circulation of air; the rear stairways enclosed, thus protecting them from the storm, and giving better control over the ingress and egress question.

Additional experience has shown that still further alterations or additions, or both, may yet be necessary about the platform, in the way perhaps, of removing the side wings so as to leave the view unobstructed, cutting the corners off of the platform, and extending the roof on a line of the rear, so offering additional seating under shelter. I do not suggest this as a positive plan, but as an indication of a line of something needed.

For better protection, picket fences have been erected during the year, around the windows of the Tabernacle, 194 feet, around Pioneer Women's Vase, 33 feet, and around Memorial Cedar, 24 feet, post and chain fence around Thompson Park, 1,165 feet, around Statuary, foot of Main Avenue, 106 feet, and around Vase dedicated to Summer visitors at Ocean Grove, 43 feet, making a total of this kind of fence of 1568 feet.

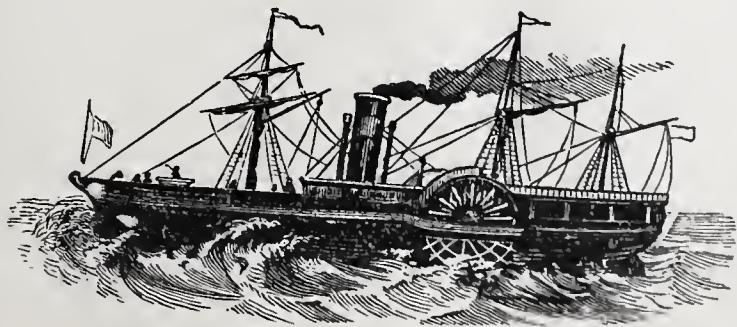
Another important work of the year, has been the removal of sand hills, the last of their kind, from Main and Central Avenues, back to Embury, and reaching nearly up to Pilgrim Pathway. This great mound of sand, the accumulation of ages, was carted away to fill inequalities and irregularities in the avenues, and also the raising of private lots to meet the grade, and elevate the buildings to be erected thereon. This work cost about \$650, but as there will be a return of about \$400 for filling up private lots, the real cost to the Association will be about \$250.

Quite a large quantity of sand was also removed from the south side of Main Avenue, between Pilgrim Pathway and Central Avenue, and the same clayed and graveled to make a proper stand for hacks and stages. In the adjustments of some business arrearages for the year, with certain

parties, the little store on Main Avenue, formerly occupied by Henry James, and the meat market on Olin Street, next to the store, have become the property of the Association.

On Friday, Aug. 16, Wesley Lake, had risen to such a height, that the dam at the foot was broken, and the water mainly flowed out to sea. This break had to be immediately repaired. Our men, together with those from Asbury Park, aided by a large number of volunteers, under the general direction of Capt. Raine, worked with great energy and skill, so that by 11.30, on Saturday night, the whole damage was repaired, with a cost to Ocean Grove side, including lumber and labor, of \$83. Two weeks from that day, another break took place, which the wash of the Sea soon repaired, and so remains. After the season has fully ended, and the waters of the lake are no longer needed, it is proposed to re-construct and improve the whole arrangement, so that a similar occurrence will be improbable.

By direction of the Association, the grounds known as Central Park, have been laid out in lots; Webb and Abbott Avenues have been cut through, graded, and the side walks made. The old and unsightly commode has been removed at small expense, to the head of the grounds, placed beside the Association stables, and is now used as a wagon house, to good advantage. Three good commodes, 4 x 7, have been erected, two in the place of the large one removed from Central Park, and one on Sea View Avenue. These, together with the general care of the grounds, including thousands of incidentals connected with the erection, taking down, and storing away the tents, goods and lumber, connected with them; removing garbage, lighting, policing, watering streets, delivering ice, and the general oversight of the Sanitary departments, are the works which have mainly occupied our men through the year. The most important work for next year, is the further improvement of streets, side walks, Wesley Lake, &c.





THE ARLINGTON.

PRIVATE IMPROVEMENTS.

It is matter of great satisfaction, that while the Association has been engaged in making their improvements for the public good, individuals show a corresponding degree of enterprise in the erection of edifices for the transaction of their own private business. Prominent among these, is the occupancy of the entire block between Pilgrim pathway and Central, Pitman and McClintock avenues by Charles E. Howland, in the extension of his house known as the "Arlington." This adds greatly to the appearance of this public locality. Also, large buildings have been erected on Main avenue, by Morrow Day & Co., opposite the post-office, and the Aldine House on the same avenue; also, by Rev. Mr. Long, on the sea front, and by Mr. White and Mrs. Agnew, near the bathing grounds, and in the Grove the Morgan House.

At the Annual Meeting last year we had 474 cottages and 27 boarding houses; this year we have 567 cottages and 33 boarding houses, total 594, an increase of 87 cottages and 6 boarding houses.



RESIDENCE OF PROFESSOR SANDERS, LAKE AVENUE.

Besides these buildings, newly erected, a number of others have undergone extensive repairs and improvements, so that every year greater permanence and beauty are added to our town. In addition to the above, a number of persons have commenced building for the coming season, and others contemplate doing so at an early date. In this connection the following summary of private business places may be of interest in coming years: There are 3 bakeries, 5 ice cream saloons, 2 barber shops, 1 news stand, 1 bookstore, 3 restaurants, 2 grocery, provision and variety stores, 1 drug store, 2 fruit stands, 1 fish market, 2 meat markets, 1 photograph gallery, 1 dry goods and fancy store, 1 ladies' trimming store and 14 private stables.

TREES.

Between one and two hundred maple trees have been set out during the year. Some of these are in the Grove, around the auditorium; some on Ocean pathway, between Central and Pilgrim pathway; others are in

Thompson, Centennial and Memorial Parks; also, a number of Norway spruce, arbor vitæ, and other evergreens have been placed in the various parks, and most of them have lived and are doing well. A similar work done every year by the Association, and by private parties on their own properties, would not only promote the beautiful, but be a lasting blessing to all concerned



J. H. THORNLEY'S COTTAGES, OCEAN PATHWAY NEAR THE SEA.

PARKS.

Our parks need more attention. Memorial Park at the post-office, and Centennial Park opposite the "Arlington," are the best improved, and are objects of beauty. Thompson Park has received some attention during the year past, but needs more. The vacant spaces between Pilgrim pathway and Central avenues, on Ocean pathway, and the four parcels of ground on Ocean pathway, between Central and the sea, greatly need improving, and as next year will mark the completion of our first decade, I would suggest that it be made the occasion for beautifying them. May it not be suggested also, that although their improvement will be a public blessing and benefit, yet as it will accrue so largely to the value of property on that splendid avenue, that the citizens residing there be invited in some proper way to aid us in the work?



LAKE PATHWAY.

TENT LIFE.

Tent life at this place instead of losing, increases in interest every year. Last year there were 605 of these canvas dwellings, the largest number ever erected by us in a single year; but this season we had 676, an increase of 71 over last year. 330 of these belong to the Association, an increase of 9 over last year. We have purchased more than 9 new tents this year, but some of our stock becoming old and soiled by constant use was sold, and the purchases exceed the sales by 9. The balance of 291 were private property, being an increase of 7 over last year. The portable kitchens in use as already stated were 106, an increase of 20.

The question of location for tents is one of some magnitude and importance. It requires a good deal of space for the occupancy of so many, and as the lots are sold and built upon, tent sites become fewer. As a solution of this difficulty, I would suggest that grounds bordering on Fletcher Lake, and now unoccupied, be cleared up, avenues and sidewalks opened and all to be properly lighted; then, as the place is among the coolest upon the grounds, it would soon become a popular place for tents, especially as Pilgrim pathway would lead almost or directly thereto, and be within five minutes' pleasant walk of the congregation or the sea.

NEW WATER WAGONS.

The old watering carts hitherto in use by us, for sprinkling streets through the summer months, were so constructed that we had to go through the laborious process of taking water from the Lake to fill them, and then carting it so far that the whole arrangement became inefficient and unsatisfactory. To meet a pressing demand two new and larger wagons were built, at a cost of \$60 each, and these are filled with water drawn from three tubes driven in the earth, and pumped by a Gould's Rotary Pump, into a tank, by the steam engine of Day & Bros., in the rear of their Ice Cream Saloon. This pump is capable of 120 strokes per minute, and at that speed the supply of water is inexhaustible. These new wagons hold 253 gallons each, and do the work of six of the old ones with much less strain upon the horses. The whole experiment with these, during the few weeks they were at work, near the close of the season, was highly satisfactory. The cost of this new arrangement, which will last for years, is about \$320.00.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The question of more efficient fire apparatus for this place is one that has elicited considerable attention. Nearly a year ago a joint committee, from Asbury Park and Ocean Grove, was appointed to consider the propriety of purchasing a steam-engine jointly for both places. Several meetings were held, and numerous inquiries and examinations made, but no practical results have yet been reached. Happily thus far, we have had no occasion for the use of such an instrument. It is the part of wisdom, however, to be ready for all emergencies. The subject will continue to receive such attention as the importance demands.

RAILROAD.

The business connected with the railroad during the past year has been conducted upon such principles of consideration and accommodation as that I think the interests of all have been conserved. The number of excursions visiting the grounds is large, and yet it must be said to the credit of all, that their character is of the very best. The unruly element usually attendant upon such expeditions, is either wholly absent or so overawed by the better class as to be almost or entirely unseen. Much less embarrassment was experienced from excursion parties during the meetings of the past summer than heretofore. The little accommodations made in Thompson Park for lunching purposes served greatly to relieve our officers from their constant watch to prevent our seats in the auditorium from becoming lunching tables. Still better arrangements can and ought to be

made in Thompson Park, or somewhere else, for the convenience of transient visitors who bring their families with them and spend but a single day.

The amount of railroad travel to and from the Ocean Grove and Asbury Park depot exceeds that of last year by more than one-third.

The number of persons estimated as entering our grounds by conveyances other than the railroad is 35,000.

HEALTH.

The sanitary condition of Ocean Grove was never more carefully guarded than during the season past, and, I am happy to say, never with better results. In addition to the methods employed in previous years, an intelligent and gentlemanly officer was detailed to look after and examine the cesspools and vaults of every building and around every tent, so that nothing offensive or injurious be allowed to remain on the surface of the ground, and when vaults or cesspools were found full or in other improper condition, report them immediately that they might be cleansed and improved. All this, however, would have been of little avail but for the purchase and employment of an odorless excavator, by which the work of emptying has been carried on with expedition, at much less cost than by the old and inefficient methods, and at all times of the day in the most public places without offense.

Without this instrument, purchased at a cost of \$500, with the increased number of our population, I think we should have been greatly and gravely embarrassed. The appointment of an officer of inspection was a wise arrangement, and his duties should be entered upon another year at the latest by the first of July.

The Board of Health, as appointed by you at the Semi-Annual Meeting last spring, has worked well, and gave timely, excellent and important counsel in cases that needed to be handled with wisdom, promptness and decision. Another year it can be made still more effective.

In this connection I wish to refer to a fact, often, but perhaps without intention, used to our injury. Strangers visiting us, making a flying tour of inspection for two or three hours only, seeing the numbers of cottages, tents and other places filled with people, go off, communicate with their friends, and frequently write for the newspapers, predicting that in the near future our water must be contaminated, and pestilence, in some of its horrid forms, desolate our little city by the sea. All this is in the range of human possibility, for sickness is everywhere, and perhaps no where more rife or fatal than in the localities from which these persons come. But I do not hesitate to say that their conclusions with regard to us are

generally founded either upon prejudice or very imperfect knowledge. First, our water cannot easily be contaminated, for our vaults for receiving excrements are either iron or cemented brick, and of course, in either case water-tight. Then, instead of its being obtained from a bed of porous sand, which they imagine absorbs the rains and whatever may be thrown upon the surface, we are compelled to drive through a strata of gravel five or six feet deep, then through a strata of clay of as many more, and still through another strata of gravel to an average depth of 25 or 30 feet, where the purest and best water imaginable, in quantities inexhaustible, is constantly obtained; and among the four or five hundred pumps driven upon these grounds, I do not know of but two or three that have not remained pure, and these have failed because of glaring improprieties and neglect. Or if the vaults or cesspools should in any case be imperfect, the percolation of impurities through all these feet of solid gravel, and especially through this underlying pan of clay, is so nearly impossible as to render the point made by superficial observers one least likely to occur.

But, though we know all this, we daily take the utmost care and caution to prevent results which would be more disastrous to us a thousand-fold, than to those who predict so unfavorably in our case. Besides, it must be borne in mind, that this heavy strain upon the Sanitary condition of these grounds, continues only about two months of the year; at the expiration of which time everything is cleared up, and during the remaining ten months, they have ample time to recuperate, being daily swept and garnished by winds or tempests from the sea.

Among so many thousands as annually visit our grounds, principally at the most sickly part of the year, many of them sick or feeble when they come, and all of them passing through a change of diet, exercises and employments, it can hardly be otherwise than that in some cases there should be slight derangements of the system, or attacks of temporary sickness. And, yet, upon careful inquiries of our most intelligent and reliable physicians, I have learned that while the people have been more numerous, the cases of temporary sickness have been fewer, and of milder form.

The following is a statement of the deaths that have occurred among us, and as far as known the causes which led thereto. Welcome E. Sheldon, son of W. E. Sheldon, died June 7, aged 4 years, of scarlet fever. Adam H. Brown, son of Pearson Brown, died July 9, aged 22 years and seven months, of consumption, having been sick a long time before coming here. Miss Sarah Robertson, daughter of Rev. W. C. Robertson, of the Philadelphia Conference, died July 19, aged 21, a sufferer for 4 years; a surgical operation had been performed, some time after which acute inflammation of the bowels resulted in death. Edward Durell, aged 26 years, died August 5, of heart disease, having been sick

for a long time, came here in the hope of recovery. Anna Hickman, daughter of Henry Hickman, aged nine months, died August 5, of Cholera Infantum. Thompson A. Godfrey, aged 69, died August 6, of heart disease. A citizen of Ocean Grove, both Summer and Winter from the earliest of her history, he was deeply devoted to all her interests. Charles Newton, son of William Newton, died August 7, aged 4 years, sick when he came of inflammation of the brain. Terhune Seymore, son of Robert Seymore, of Troy, died Sept. 1, aged 12 years, had diphtheria when he came, and his friends hoped for restoration here. Matilda Cochran, of Philadelphia, died August 30, aged 55, of paralysis of the nerves, afflicted for six or seven years. Nine of them in all, yet none of them attributable to anything special at this place. Let us be thankful to God, that the sickness has been so slight and the death rate in view of the numbers who congregate at this place, so small.

CEMETERY.

In my report last year, I called the attention of the Association to the importance of a Cemetery at this place. Nothing, however, has been done in reference to the matter, and we now have three interments beside the Church, all of which are to be removed when a permanent place of burial shall have been provided. The necessity for this will press itself upon your attention more and more as the years go by, for each year the settled population increases, and each year by this increased population the number of deaths must multiply. Besides this, a stranger dying here, in summer, a thousand miles from home, a place of interment must immediately be had. I therefore renew my request, that you will give the subject needed attention.

DRAINAGE.

This question has received very thorough consideration, and a bill, granting power to the Association, to construct sewerage and assess costs upon the property in the Grove, was passed by the New Jersey Legislature, at its session last winter. But as sewerage is very expensive, and by no means free from objections where it exists, and as other methods are in use, believed to be effectual, nothing further has been done.

ASSESSMENTS.

I think it a matter of interest, to keep before the mind of the Association annually, the actual facts with regard to our assessments. As stated before, it is the constant aim to keep this item of expense as low as possible. Our leases allow an annual assessment of 7 per cent. on \$150, upon each lot, a total of \$10.50. This sum has never been called for. The highest ever collected was five dollars, and that but one year.

The average is about \$3. But as shown in other years, this does not pay for a line of expenses, which accrue to the public benefit, and for which they pay in no other way. This appears by the following simple statement.

Cost of lighting these grounds this year.	\$1,108 00
“ of Policing, (722 days.)	1,271 00
“ of Removing Garbage	692 00
“ of examining Cess-pools, &c.	52 00
“ of Sprinkling Streets.	205 00
Total,	<u>\$3,328 00</u>
Received on Assessments, this year,	3,085 51
Deficit,	<u>\$232 49</u>
Deficiency for two previous years	1,048 60
Total Deficiency for three years.	<u><u>\$1,281 09</u></u>

It will be borne in mind, that the taxes levied on the improvements in this place, are by the township, paid to and held by it. Not one cent, thus far in our history, has been received by this Association from that source. We have no representation in the township, we pay taxes to a large amount to the township, and yet receive *nothing from the township*. I think it probable, that some misunderstanding has arisen from not keeping these facts clearly before the mind.

POLICE.

Our police force, has been, during the past season, under the direction of Major J. C. Patterson, who is also our police Justice. It is proper to say, concerning this department of our affairs, that our policemen were never better organized, and never did better work. Less in numbers than at some other times, yet in duties more effective, and successful. It may be well to know, that these men are charged with varied and important duties: the enforcement of all our rules; the maintenance of quiet both day and night on the beach, lakes and in the Grove; the oversight of all hackmen, omnibuses, and other vehicles entering the grounds; the sanitary condition of things; the settlement of any little disputes that may arise; the abatement or removal of anything that would in any way interfere with the peace, safety, or pleasure of those who may visit our grounds; and to do all in the most quiet, orderly and inoffensive way. For so few men to accomplish all these things perfectly would be more than could be expected; and yet I am free to say, all things considered, they have done well. Men are stationed at each gate, at the ferry, at the foot of each lake, and one also along the lake. The following will give some conception of the nuisances which they have abated, and of which the peaceful dwellers in the Grove have no knowledge.

At the foot of Wesley Lake alone, there were prevented from entering the grounds:

Pedlers (eye-glass and pack)	38
Prize package venders	19
Punch and Judy Shows	3
Bird shows	4
Gymnastic shows	2

Besides these there were prevented from entering or excluded from other parts of the grounds,

Pack pedlers	67
“ fined	1
“ turned away from the gates	131
Organ grinders put off the ground	11
“ turned away from gates	17
Brass bands put off during Camp-Meeting	2
Eye-glass pedlers put off	7
“ “ turned from the gates	13
Intoxicated persons put off the grounds	3
“ “ turned away from the gates	17
Prize package venders put off the grounds	2
“ “ turned away from the gates	29
Flashy shows of various kinds put off and turned away	7
No. of tramps put off	13
“ “ turned away from gates	43

These are simply the reported cases, the actual number was greater still. It will readily be seen that but for this police vigilance the numbers of persons in the lines referred to would be much greater, and these, in addition to those who call at our cottages and tents on legitimate business connected with daily wants, would be so great that our people would have no time for rest or other duties, to say nothing of their exposure from these wanderers to insult or petty theft.

The police attentions along Wesley Lake have had good effect, as the following statements of the officer show: Boats lost (reported), and returned to owners, 43; oars lost and returned to owners, 47; damage done to boats, amount collected and returned to damaged parties, \$4.00; taken before police justices, reprimanded and discharged, 6. The whole number of boats on Wesley Lake is 530. But notwithstanding this great number the Sabbath quiet has been uninterrupted, and for so many, the usual week-day order has been good. The licensing of boats, adopted for the first time this year, has worked well, some things, however, may need amending. As with hacks, rates of charges need to be enacted, as there is a disposition on the part of some to over-reach in this respect. Then the number licensed needs to be regulated and limited. Too many make confusion. Experience proves too that sail-boats beyond a certain size

intimidate ladies and children, and should not be allowed. The steam-boat, too, is a source of fear to many, especially to mothers on behalf of their children, it is not needed, and in my judgment should not be allowed. Sail-boats of any size should not be permitted to run after dark. Great care needs to be used likewise in reference to the character of the persons to whom licenses are given to run boats, as several persons have shown themselves, this season, utterly unworthy of such a trust.

I would in connection with this subject say, that the ordinances passed by our Legislature last winter making clearly lawful things, the legality of which some doubted, have greatly aided us in our work. Nevertheless, experience has shown that some additional legislation may be needed. The law concerning pack peddlers requires them to leave the ground under penalty of \$2 fine; they do leave when the police compel them to do so, but return again often twenty times a week. The need is, that a penalty be affixed to the repetition of the offence. So likewise some modifications in the rates of licenses for hucksters, etc. I would further state that in the adjustment of many little matters among so many people, our policemen are to be commended for the undemonstrative and quiet manner in which every thing has been done; and it likewise gives me pleasure to say that while we have a new and substantial lock-up upon our grounds, yet, thus far, we have had no occasion for its use, and very few even of our permanent citizens know where it is.

I would state in conclusion on this subject, that as light is one of the most efficient aids in good police regulations, in my judgment the electric lamp, now being successfully introduced in many places, is worthy of our thought and investigation, as the very best thing with which to illuminate our whole ocean front, and so, by flooding it with the light of day, render the practice of any improprieties there not only an impossibility, but put to eternal silence the last foul utterance of a suspicion in that direction. I hope a committee may be appointed to examine the merits of this new invention.

DOGS.

The ordinance concerning dogs has been enforced this year with good results. The law requires them to be securely muzzled from the 1st day of June until the 1st day of November. In default of this they may be impounded, and if not redeemed within twenty-four hours, killed.

The following is the result:

Impounded and redeemed	9
Impounded, not redeemed, killed and buried	8
Killed for flagrant offences, not impounded	2
Total	<hr/> 19

With this regulation in force, we passed the summer with fair satisfac

tion, but it would be vastly better for all if, in coming to the Grove, visitors would leave their dogs at home.

HACKS, OMNIBUSES, &c.

The matter of licenses for the various kinds of business coming to the Grove has been in operation for the first this year. Mainly it worked well, better than was anticipated. In regard to hacks, omnibuses, baggage and express wagons, it has been much better than before the license system was inaugurated. Perhaps the chief difficulty and source of conflict has been in reference to obtaining farm produce. These complaints have, I think, been founded generally upon the idea that the license fee was so large that farmers would not pay it, and so did not come: or, if they did, their charges were so high for their produce, because of the price they had to pay for license, that the people in some instances became dissatisfied. Both these points are not only errors, but I regret to say that in some instances I fear the farmers helped, rather than relieved the wrong. *In no instance whatever has a farmer been charged for selling his own produce upon these grounds.* If he brought and sold the produce of others, then he became a huckster, and was charged a license. The chief explanation of the difficulty is found in the fact that the late frosts of the spring killed large quantities of the early vegetables, and made them so scarce that there were, during the early part of the season, but few to be brought; others *thought* they had to pay a license, and so did not come; to these, a third fact is to be added, there were more people here, and they came earlier than ever before. Still, the inconvenience was not serious, and another year, when Providence may favor the farmer more, and the whole subject is better understood, with a reduction of license fees to those called hucksters, there will be no difficulty experienced in the case.

The number of persons licensed and the business conducted by them is shown by the following :

No. of omnibuses licensed	14
“ hacks, two horses	46
“ “ one horse	2
“ baggage wagons	12
“ express “	1
“ butchers’ “	8
“ hucksters’ “	18
“ bakers’ “	4
“ milk (nominal)	10
“ fish “	11
“ oysters “	3
“ donkey express	1
Total	130



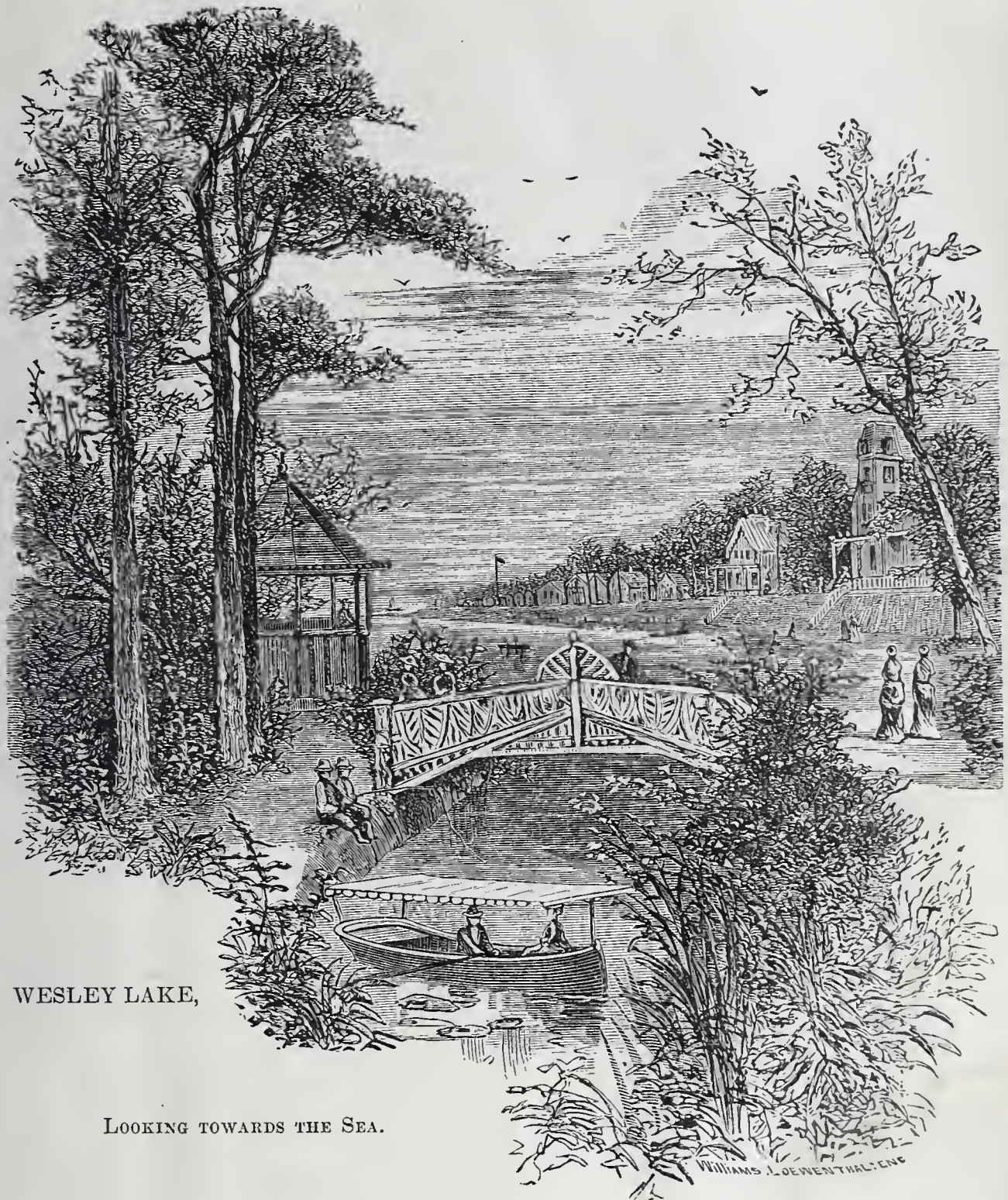
BATHING SCENE—FOOT OF WESLEY LAKE.

BATHING.

We have upon our beach two public bathing places, one at the foot of Wesley Lake, the buildings at which are owned and the business conducted by Joseph Ross, Esq.; the other at the foot of Fletcher Lake, the buildings at which are owned and the business conducted by T. W. Lillagore, Esq. The grounds and privileges of conducting the business are rented to the gentlemen named for a term of years by the Association.

Mr. Ross has increased the number of his bathing-houses to 360, and has added 24 bathing-houses, in which are excellent arrangements for hot and cold salt water baths. Besides these, he has erected an engine room, which contains a six-horse power engine for pumping salt water, drying clothes, &c. He has also erected a restaurant, ice cream saloon, soda fountain, and two pavilions.

Mr. Lillagore has 205 excellent bathing-houses, ice cream saloon, soda fountain, and two substantial pavilions. I am happy to say that both these gentlemen have, I think, conducted their respective establishments to the general satisfaction of the public, and in such ways as to secure the confidence and approval of the Association. There is one thing, however, in this connection, to which I desire to call attention, and



WESLEY LAKE,

LOOKING TOWARDS THE SEA.

should greatly rejoice if a radical and thorough change could be wrought. I refer to the *improper*, *immodest*, and *exposed* condition in which many persons allow themselves to go through our most public thoroughfares to and from the bathing grounds. The custom is an injury to the place, and exposes those who practice it to many uncomplimentary remarks, both in private and by the public press. A small sum of money would procure ample accommodations at the bathing-houses for change of raiment, and so relieve the whole question; or, if it is claimed this cannot be done, then persons going through the streets in bathing apparel should be required to be as fully cloaked or covered as when in their ordinary clothing. Let us hope for a decided reform in this matter another year.

WESLEY LAKE.

As the years roll, this little sheet of water becomes a source of enjoyment to increasing numbers of people, and for that fact needs the greater care and attention. Its sanitary condition needs to be faithfully watched, and everything avoided that would awaken a suspicion of its purity, or in any way endanger the health of those residing near its banks. Hitherto it has not caused sickness, and need not, if proper safeguards are thrown around it at its head. This needs the united vigilance of both Asbury Park and Ocean Grove. Its government the past season, as also last year, has been by a joint board of supervision, appointed by the Grove and Park, and in the main has worked well, but some more stringent regulations are needed, in reference to licenses, running of sail-boats, steamboat, and other things, so that the utmost order and sense of safety to all may be preserved. The Sabbath sanctity on the Lake, I am happy to say, is well observed. The appointment of a special police on our side has removed some abuses, and wrought some improvements upon its shore. Neither side can be too jealous of protecting, to the highest possible degree, the order and healthfulness of this little gem of pleasure. Its injury in any sense would detract largely from the happiness of many who gather at these localities.

FLETCHER LAKE.

The waters of this lake have been in good condition during the season. The boats have multiplied to 35, and the number who use it for pleasure have also gradually increased. It is susceptible of a high degree of improvement, and as the years advance will become the successful rival of the now more popular, because better improved Wesley Lake. The day is not distant when a few thousand dollars, spent in this neighborhood, will be a good investment, and soon pay back more than the original cost.

ELIM COTTAGE.

This interesting enterprise, which aims at moderate cost to provide a place of entertainment for all evangelical ministers of our Lord Jesus Christ, has passed through the third year of its history. One hundred and five guests were entertained within its walls, embracing Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Reformed, Baptists, Congregationalists, Friends and German Reformed, from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Louisiana and Aus-



SYLVAN DALE COTTAGE,

CORNER OF

LAKE AVENUE AND WESLEY PLACE.

tralia. The officers and members of the "Ladies' Aid Society of Ocean Grove," who have this interest in charge, are doing a good work, and though sometimes discouraged in it, have great cause for thankfulness that in this quiet and unobtrusive way they are securing the approval of Him who said, "He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward." Donations to aid in carrying on the enterprise more effectually will be thankfully received by the President, Mrs. Annie Cookman, or by the Treasurer, Mrs. Joseph H. Thornley, both of Philadelphia, Pa.

PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

From the beginning it has been the custom of the Association to print the Annual Report of the President in neat pamphlet form. In accordance with this arrangement, we published in December last 2000 copies of the Eighth Annual Report, under the title "Worship by the Sea." with the revised By-Laws at the end, at a cost of \$154. A copy of this, as aforetime, was sent, free of charge, to each lot holder, which left a sufficient number for office distribution, to friends visiting here and desiring to know something of our work and progress. In May of this year, as usual, we printed 3000 copies of our Ocean Grove Annual, No. 9, for gratuitous distribution, giving information to the public of our meetings, tent rates and other matters supposed to be of interest to persons desiring to visit or make their homes with us for a season by the sea. This enables many who come in advance to send to their friends at home, in condensed and convenient forms, many facts of interest which they could not otherwise know.

Last year Dr. Curry, visiting our grounds, volunteered to publish an illustrated article on Ocean Grove, providing we would supply the cuts and furnish the article. The proposition was accepted, and the May number of the *National Repository* contains the article as agreed.

The Daily Graphic, of New York, also published in one of its numbers two pages of illustrations of Ocean Grove, together with a descriptive article written with accuracy and care.

Harper's Weekly, too, in one of its issues, gave a large pictorial illustration of Ocean Grove, and one of the best surf meeting scenes yet published.

The Ladies' Floral Wreath, of New York, a finely printed monthly journal of high tone, published in their August number some fine illustrations of our grounds, with complimentary notices of the same. These, together with the unnumbered visitors who write letters to their home journals and reporters from the daily papers, give to the world at large a pretty thorough knowledge of our doings here.

A very good cut, representing Ocean Grove from the sea, and a compactly written article also, is found in Bishop Simpson's new *Encyclopædia of Methodism* just published.

The Ocean Grove Record has changed its form and returned to its original heading since our last Annual Meeting. Its contents are as ever varied, interesting, spicy and full of religious spirit and instruction. It should be in the house of every friend of Ocean Grove. The cost is so trifling, and its weekly visits so important, especially during those parts of the year when our people are at their distant homes, that no ordinary

consideration should induce them to be without it. If it is to be sustained and continued, it needs the active co-operation of all its friends.

POST-OFFICE.

Letters sent from this office this year	101,208
" " " last year	97,696
Increase	<u>3,512</u>
Letters received this year	107,300
" last year	99,496
Increase	<u>7,804</u>

TELEGRAMS.

Sent this year	3278
Sent last year	3237
Increase	<u>41</u>

The telegraph office at this place has this year become a money-order office, in which line considerable business has been done, and the public interests thereby conserved.

The need for more extended accommodations in the post-office building continues to be a felt want at this place. So pressing is this want that it might properly be termed a necessity. Indeed, a building better adapted to both postal and Association needs must be provided at no distant day.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

Received from all sources for year ending Sept. 1, 1878, including cash	
balance of Sept. 1, 1877	\$56,450 18
Expenditures, including payments on lands and all other objects . . .	47,610 16
Balance in Treasury Sept. 1. 1878	<u>\$ 8,840 02</u>

ASSETS.

Inventory, including Association buildings, Tools, Tents, &c., &c . . .	60,825 00
Bonds and Mortgages, Railroad Bonds and Book Accounts, &c . . .	28,671 99
Total	<u>\$89,496 99</u>

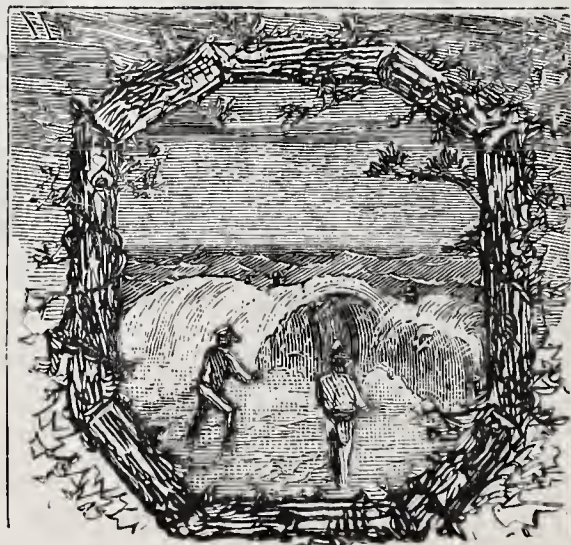
LIABILITIES

Of all descriptions	<u>22,160 67</u>
Excess in favor of Association over all liabilities, not estimating the	
value of unsold lands	\$67,336 32

It is a matter of special interest to be able to state at this time, that our books, which from the beginning, though accurate as to receipts and expenditures, yet not in such forms as rule requires, have, at our request, been taken in hand by a competent person, thoroughly analyzed, and a new set opened upon the most approved principles of modern book-keeping. This is a great satisfaction to us all.

PARTICULAR MERCIES.

I have thus called your attention to most, if not all the prominent and tangible points and phases of our material work during the year just closed. I cannot conclude this part of my report, however, without special mention of the continued watchfulness and care of Almighty God over these grounds for the twelve months past. There has been no case of fire among us. The tempests which have desolated many parts of our land, have done us little or no harm. The health of the people has been good. The weather during most of the season delightful, and while many thousands of both old and young availed themselves of the pleasures of the ocean bath, no one has been drowned. I think it a marvelous history, that for nine years so many hundreds of thousands have enjoyed this luxury without one fatal accident. For such signal and unparalleled mercies we desire to ascribe unceasing praise to Almighty God, and while we continue to feel our dependence upon Him, would, at the same time, most earnestly and affectionately exhort our people to the observance of all rules adopted for the maintenance of health, and especially of all appropriate cautions while bathing in the sea.





“In the beginning, God,”—
 The Father, Son, and Spirit, by the Sea;
 Where truth, like dew-drops on the sod,
 Falls tenderly.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

I now come to what will be to you all a more pleasant, because a more spiritual, part of this report. And yet, the former, though bearing of necessity exclusively upon the material, is important, as the trellis to the vine which bears the rich clusters of delicious fruit. Without the trellis, the vine would fail, and it is only the inseparable connection of the material with the spiritual that leads us to devote so much attention to the things which seemingly belong alone to time.

Our religious services commenced this year with a prayer and experience meeting in the Bishop Janes Memorial Tabernacle, on Thursday evening, June 8th, and I wish here to return thanks to a company of young ladies who, feeling a deep interest in this building, wrought with their own fingers and framed at their own expense, twelve beautiful mottoes to hang over each door of this, our place of summer worship. The first Sabbath service of the season was held on Sabbath afternoon, June 16th, at 3.30 o'clock.

FOURTH OF JULY.

The one hundred and second anniversary of American Independence was celebrated on Thursday, July 4. The bells were rung, and a national salute fired at sunrise. The McKnight Rifle Company paraded under Capt. Raine; a company of citizens joined them at Evergreen Park, and marched with them to the foot of Main Avenue, where a statue of the “Angel of Victory,” seated upon a pedestal, in an enclosed mound

called "Monmouth Place," in honor of the battle of Monmouth, was unveiled. The erection of this statue was projected, and is, in part, the result of private subscriptions from citizens of this place. After brief speeches of presentation and replies, the procession moved to the auditorium, which was handsomely decorated for the occasion by W. H. Stokes, Esq. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. H. Thornley. Rev. W. S. Barnart, pastor of St. Paul's M. E. Church, read the Declaration of Independence. The oration was delivered by Rev. Chas. R. Hartranfft, of Long Branch. The music, under the direction of W. Dey, Esq., with all the other exercises, passed off delightfully, without riot, noise, or confusion of any kind.

OCEAN GROVE SUMMER SABBATH-SCHOOL.

The auditorium was opened this year for divine service on Sabbath, July 7th. In the afternoon, at 2 o'clock, the Ocean Grove Summer Sabbath-school was organized, with an attendance of 815. The Infant Department was immediately assigned to the Tabernacle, under the direction of G. W. Evans. The Adult Bible Class, which filled Dr. Ward's tent to overflowing, to Dr. Hanlon, while the main division remained in the auditorium in charge of J. H. Thornley, Supt., assisted by T. McPherson and J. L. Hays. The numbers and interest of the school continued to increase until August 25th, when there were 1900 present. After this, the numbers declined until Sept. 8th, when the school closed with 500 in attendance. The school was in session ten Sabbaths, and the total number in attendance was 13,121, an increase of 1327 over last year, without St. Paul's school, which last year met with ours, but this year kept open through all the season. The average attendance each Sabbath was 1312.

The International Lesson Leaves were used, papers circulated, singing of a high order engaged in, and all the appointments and privileges of a first-class Sabbath-school enjoyed, while at the same time, the numbers prove a wonderful inspiration to all. It is still true that this part of our work increases in interest and numbers every year.

UNION EVANGELISTIC SERVICES.

The services of the Union Evangelistic Society commenced on Tuesday morning, July 9th, and closed Friday morning, July 19th, under the Presidency of Rev. A. B. Earl, D. D., assisted by a large number of the ministers of the various denominations. The exercises were, in the main, well attended, and the congregations sometimes very large. Much of the preaching was of a superior order, and the whole of the exercises high-toned and spiritual. One day, namely, Saturday the 13th,

was given to the ladies, under Mrs. Whittenmyer, as temperance day. The addresses of Mrs. Robinson, of Indiana; Mrs. Yeomans, of Canada; Mrs. Lathrop, of Michigan; Mrs. Wittenmyer, of Philadelphia, and others, will long live in the memories of the vast congregations permitted to hear them. Tuesday, the 16th, was children's day, under Rev. E. P. Hammond, and a time of much interest. All the meetings were good, and met a want at this place, where so many of the various denominations assemble from time to time, and are glad to greet those of their own faith and fellowship.

ANNIVERSARY DAY.

Wednesday, July 31st, was celebrated as the ninth anniversary of our first little prayer meeting held upon these grounds, in Bro. Thornley's tent, near what is now cor. of Lake avenue and Pilgrim pathway, July 31, 1869. The new Hymnal of the Methodist Episcopal Church was first introduced at this service, and used throughout the season with great satisfaction. Rev. Dr. Foss, President of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., preached a sermon of marvelous strength and beauty, at 10.30 A. M. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the young people's exercises took place. These consisted of singing, prayer and addresses by Geo. C. Stull, of Trenton, N. J.; Miss M. J. Edna Taylor, of Conn.; Frank W. Knowles, of Orange, N. J.; John Hanlon, of Pennington, N. J., and Miss Carrie Howland, of Ocean Grove, N. J. Charles Vaughn, of Philadelphia, gave solos on the cornet, and the children of the Paterson Orphan Asylum sang and gave several recitations. The choir was led by W. Dey, Esq., and the Lakeside Band sung several special pieces. At the close of these services, all of which were much more than ordinarily interesting, the vase at the west end of the auditorium and directly in front of the preacher's stand, filled with beautiful flowers, was unveiled, and dedicated to the summer worshipers at Ocean Grove. Several impromptu addresses were then delivered, and the orphan children repeated the Apostles' Creed and Lord's Prayer in reverent tones, the doxology was sung, the benediction pronounced, and the most successful young people's anniversary we ever held came to a close. Several ladies connected with St. Paul's Church, Philadelphia, asked the privilege of filling this vase with flowers next year, and for this purpose collected and left in our hands the sum of \$10. At night the anniversary prayer meeting took place at the auditorium, more than 3000 people being present. The singing was conducted by Philip Phillips. The prayers were fervent, and the whole service blest to many souls, while multitudes in their hearts exclaimed, "*What hath God wrought?*"

SERVICE OF SONG.

On Thursday afternoon, August 1st, Philip Phillips commenced a series of song services which continued until Wednesday evening, August 7th, in which he was assisted by Mrs. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Osborn, of Ohio, James C. Phillips and Charles Woodhull, cornetist, and by all the congregation,—for at each service, song sermons, with music, interspersed with scriptural readings, were circulated among the people. The whole service, in which some 15,000 sermons were distributed, was intensely spiritual and greatly enjoyed, as shown in the fact that the last was among the largest congregations that attended.

WOMEN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY DAY.

Sabbath, August 11th, was set apart as the anniversary of the Ocean Grove Women's Foreign Missionary Society. Dr. Dashiell preached to the great satisfaction and delight of a vast congregation at 10.30 A. M., from the words of Jesus, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." At the close it was stated that such a sermon was worth at least two hundred dollars, and the congregation was asked to drop this sum in the baskets to aid the women in their foreign missionary work. Singularly enough the collection amounted to exactly two hundred dollars. In the afternoon the anniversary proper was held, the annual reports read and Mrs. William B. Skidmore, of New York, and Mrs. Chandler, of Baltimore, addressed the meeting. On Monday evening a missionary love feast was held, a large number spoke, and the meeting was of such a peculiarly touching and tender character that it was found difficult to bring it to a close. Over \$470 were realized as the result of the anniversary day, a larger sum than ever reached before.

SURF MEETINGS.

The origin of these meetings, now so popular among us, was very simple, and I think never written. During the first year of our meeting here, a young man stepped up before service on Sabbath morning, and asked if it was contrary to our rules to go down to the beach on the Sabbath? I said, "We have no rules on the subject;" but added, "I don't believe I would go now; if you will wait till after tea we will all go down and hold a meeting there." "Well," said he, "I guess I can wait till then." A brother rebuked me sharply, and said, "You are abridging the liberties of the people, why didn't you let him go?" I answered, "No, I am enlarging them, (I did not forbid his going), for instead of sending this young man down to the beach alone, (there were not many people here in 1870), I said if he would wait till after tea, we would *all go with him.*" He did wait, we all went, and a meeting never to be forgotten was

held upon the shore. These meetings have since become a necessity, and when the weather permits are uniformly held just after tea on Sabbath evenings.

During the summer just past, the number of these meetings held was eleven, at which there were over fifty addresses, many prayers, hundreds of songs, with an aggregate attendance of over 70,000 people. To a stranger visiting these meetings for the first time, the impression is peculiarly deep, solemn and impressive, while to most it is abiding and good.

ANNUAL CAMP MEETING.

The Annual Camp Meeting commenced this year on Monday, August 19th, a few days later than last year, growing out of the fact that if we had commenced the first of the week before it would for some reasons have been too early, and if we had commenced the latter part of that week, which would have been about the same date as last year, then to run it ten days would have required two Sabbaths, a point in my judgment always to be avoided. In order, therefore, not to have it too early, and yet bring it through a day or two before the 1st of September, we had to commence on Monday.

The opening service, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, was in the evening of that day. About 900 communed, and at the close the large number of ministers present expressed their heartiest sympathies with the meeting, and pledged their presence, prayers and labors in its support; pledges which many of them every day redeemed in the noblest and most apostolic manner. The singing was under the direction of Professor John R. Sweeney, assisted by Bro. John Hardy, of New York. The opening sermon on Tuesday morning by Rev. B. M. Adams, of New Haven, and a member of this Association, from the text, "They that wait upon the Lord shall mount up with wings as eagles," seemed to give the keynote to the whole meeting, namely, the highest possible attainments in the divine life as qualifications for the conversion of sinners. The sermons were all of a high order, some of them of peerless magnificence and matchless might. It was the testimony of most that such a series of sermons in succession, were rarely if ever heard. The Spirit of God seemed to attend them all. The morning meetings for holiness, led by Dr. and Mrs. Palmer, commencing during the Union Evangelistic meetings, July 13th, continued up to the Camp-Meeting, run through that and on to Sabbath, September 15th, a period of two months and two days, were intensely interesting and profitable to many hundred souls. The early morning meetings for consecration, by Bro. Andrews; the young people's meetings, led by the young men, assisted by Mrs. Bottome; the children's meetings, in charge of Bro. G. W. Evans; the holiness meetings, held by Sister

Lizzie Smith; the preachers' meetings, led by Bro. Inskip; the twilight meetings, under the lead of Bro. B. M. Adams; the Bible readings and general experience meetings were all spiritual, powerful and successful. Bishop Harris, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Bishop Fallows, of the Reformed Episcopal Church, favored us with their presence, and gave us sermons of unusual interest and strength. The meeting closed on Thursday morning, August 29th, at which time ten children were baptized and 1200 persons received the holy communion. At this service one table was filled with children, about forty in number, a part of those who had professed conversion at their special meetings and received the sacred emblems seemingly with as much intelligence, reverence and pious joy as their parents, brethren or friends. The ministers then marched around the auditorium square, followed by a large part of the congregation, then, gathering at the stand again, amid hands shaking, tears and triumphant songs of an unusual character, the meeting closed. In the estimation of all it was the most successful ever held upon these grounds.

The services after camp-meeting, which were continued up to Thursday evening, October 3d, were largely attended, peculiarly interesting, spiritual and profitable, in which many souls were wonderfully aided Godward.

On Sabbath, September 8th, an appeal from Memphis on behalf of the sufferers from yellow fever was read to the congregation, which, in the most cheerful and enthusiastic manner, contributed the noble sum of \$591 for their relief.

RECAPITULATION.

I have thus named the special meetings of the year, but it will be seen that the intervals between these services were occupied with religious meetings of some kind, so that from the time the Tabernacle was opened, in June, to its close in autumn, a period of four months, the songs of salvation do not cease to roll.

The following is an exact synopsis of the various exercises held: sermons preached 87, temperance addresses 6, prayer and experience meeting 37, holiness, twilight and consecration meetings, the same in purpose, though called by different names, 141, young people's meetings 40, children's meetings 18, Sabbath-school services 10, Bible readings 5, surf meetings 11, surf meeting addresses 50, love feasts 4, sacraments 3, sunrise meetings 1, teachers' meetings 4, family devotions at the stand 12, preachers' meetings 2, poem readings 2, national celebration 1, Ocean Grove anniversary 1, Women's Foreign Missionary Society anniversary 1, missionary love feasts 2, song sermons by Philip Phillips 12, historical chart service 1, blackboard exercises with Scripture readings 2; 452 in all; in addition to which are to be considered the unnumbered exhortations, prayers and inspiring songs, moving the hearts of countless multi-

tudes until for days and weeks the whole place was like that which Moses occupied, when the Lord said to him, "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground."

What are the results? No man can tell. This much, however, comes to our knowledge. Counting those, of whom persons in charge of the various meetings gained information, there were reclaimed, wholly sanctified, or newly saved, 570, at the close of the camp-meeting, but since then, there have been enough to swell the number to at least *six hundred*! But, besides all these, there have been those who have come from all points of the compass, some from as far off as Minnesota, who have spoken privately and otherwise of the wonderful blessings received here during these summer months; and while they came more particularly for physical health, yet, having been so graciously baptized of the Holy Spirit while here, were going home to be better Christians and to do more for God. May the home churches feel the impulse of this summer work at Ocean Grove down to the end of time.

I have thus shown you the year as best I could, both temporally and spiritually. I praise God for all; and yet, amid all, my heart is sometimes saddened when I remember that you, and we all, engaged in this enterprise, having, as I am persuaded, a single aim to glorify God, are often misunderstood, and as a consequence, misjudged and censured; still, I as often take courage, knowing that this was the path the Master trod, and if we are faithful he will, though it be through suffering, in his own time and way, bring us

"Where a blasted world shall brighten
Underneath a bluer sphere,
And a softer, gentler sunshine
Sheds its healing splendor here;
Where earth's barren vales shall blossom,
Putting on their robes of green,
And a purer, fairer Eden
Be where only wastes have been,
Where a King in kingly glory,
Such as earth has never known,
Shall assume the righteous sceptre,
Claim and wear the holy crown.
Brothers, there we all shall rest
With the holy and the blest."

Until then, we do here and now commend you, and this great work, to God and his grace, to keep you and it forever.

E. H. STOKES, *President*.

OCEAN GROVE, N. J., October, 1878.

In Memoriam.

ALFRED COOKMAN.
RULIF V. LAWRENCE.
GEORGE FRANKLIN.
JOHN H. STOCKTON.

They sought for rest, and found it by the sea,
Where proud ships sail, and winds so grandly sweep ;
Where glassy lakes lie slumbering on the lee,
And dim old forests cast their shadows deep ;
Here oft they sat, and with their friends conversed,
And prayed, and sung of Jesus' precious blood—
Full many a time the story they rehearsed,
Then sweetly passed in triumph up to God.
